

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for playing a slot machine comprising the steps of:

- a) displaying a matrix of symbols as a spin outcome of said slot machine;
- b) ~~permitting the player to select one symbol~~ selecting, by a player, at least one of said displayed symbols only when at least one trigger symbol randomly appears in said spin outcome;
- c) ~~converting the position associated with the one symbol to be wild, each~~ said at least one selected symbol to a wild symbol; and
- d) ~~awarding the player in accord with a pay table and/or rule of play of said slot machine in response to converting the at least one selected symbol to a wild symbol in~~ said spin outcome.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A method for playing a slot machine comprising the steps of:

- a) ~~establishing and depicting the rules of play and~~ depicting, on said slot machine, a pay table;
- b) ~~allowing the a player to make a wager and begin play~~ wager, thereby beginning play of said slot machine;
- c) displaying a matrix of symbols as a spin outcome of said slot machine;
- d) ~~permitting the player to select~~ selecting, by the player, one or more of said displayed symbols in accord with information learned from step (a) in said depicted pay table, said selecting occurring only when at least one trigger symbol randomly appears in said spin outcome;
- e) ~~converting each of the one or more selected symbols~~ positions associated with the one or more symbols selected to be wild a wild symbol; and

f) awarding the player in accord with the depicted pay table and/or rule of play in response to converting each of the one or more symbols to a wild symbol in said spin outcome.

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of claim ~~[[3]] 2~~ with the step of converting making all positions with that symbol to be wild wherein said converting comprises:

automatically converting to a wild symbol all other symbols appearing in the spin outcome corresponding to the one or more selected symbols.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim ~~[[3]] 2~~ with the step of awarding having an enhanced multiplier for any resultant pays utilizing said at least one position further comprising:

having an enhanced multiplier with said selected one or more symbols; and
employing said enhanced multiplier for said awarding.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of claim 5 ~~with the step of having the enhanced multiplier randomly chosen~~ wherein said having an enhanced multiplier comprises:
randomly choosing said enhanced multiplier.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim ~~[[3]] 2~~ wherein the random matrix has columns and rows with the step of converting all the positions in either a column or row said selecting by said player selects only one symbol and said converting comprises:

converting to a wild symbol each of the remaining symbols in a line in said matrix having said one selected symbol.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of claim ~~[[3]] 2~~ with the step of permitting the player to apply strategy based on information available on the pay table and/or rules of play to select at least one symbol further comprising:

applying strategy during said selecting by said player based on the spin outcome and information in said depicted pay table.

Claim 9 (canceled)

ai Claim 10 (currently amended): An apparatus for ~~strategically~~ playing a casino slot machine for a wager comprising:

a) a first display of said casino slot machine for displaying a pay table and/or rules of play information table;

b) a processor ~~capable of displaying a matrix for a wager, on a second display of said casino slot machine the~~ a spin outcome as a matrix presentation comprising symbols randomly positioned in rows and columns;

e) an input means for ~~the~~ a player to choose one or more symbols; select at least one symbol within said matrix only when a trigger symbol is randomly displayed with said spin outcome, [[d)]] wherein the processor capable of changing the display of one or more symbols to be wild, and converts to a wild symbol each said selected at least one symbol and wherein the processor [[e)]] awards the player in accord with the displayed pay table and/or rules of play.

Claim 11 (new): A method for playing a casino game, the method comprising:

wagering by a player to play said casino game;

presenting the player with a spin outcome in response to the wager, said spin outcome having a plurality of symbols;

displaying at least one trigger symbol with randomly selected spin outcomes;

qualifying said player for a player wild feature only when said at least one trigger symbol is displayed with said presented spin outcome;

selecting, by the player during said wild feature, at least one of said plurality of symbols in said spin outcome in response to said qualification of said player;

converting to a wild symbol each said selected at least one symbol during said wild feature;

providing a payoff for play of said casino game based on said presented spin outcome; when said player is qualified for said wild feature, providing a payoff based on said presented spin outcome with each said converted wild symbol.

21 Claim 12 (new): The method of claim 11 further comprising:
automatically converting each at least one trigger symbol to a wild symbol when the at least one trigger symbol is displayed in the presented spin outcome.

Claim 13 (new): The method of claim 11 further comprising:
automatically converting to a wild symbol all symbols appearing in the presented spin outcome corresponding to the at least one selected symbol.

Claim 14 (new): The method of claim 11 further comprising:
automatically converting to a wild symbol each other symbol in a line of symbols in said presented spin outcome wherein said selected at least one symbol is in said line.

Claim 15 (new): The method of claim 13 wherein said displaying occurs during said play of said casino game.

Claim 16 (new): A method for playing a casino game, the method comprising:
presenting a player with a spin outcome in the casino game, the spin outcome having a plurality of symbols;
randomly qualifying the player for a player wild feature during play of said casino game;
selecting, by the player, at least one of said plurality of symbols in response to said qualifying said player for said wild feature;
converting said selected at least one symbol to a wild symbol;
providing a payoff for said play of said casino game based on said presented spin outcome with each said converted wild symbol.

Claim 17 (new): The method of claim 16 wherein said randomly qualifying the player comprises:

presenting at least one trigger symbol to the player in response to presenting the spin outcome.

Claim 18 (new): The method of claim 16 wherein said randomly qualifying the player comprises:

including at least one trigger symbol in said presented spin outcome.

Claim 19 (new): The method of claim 18 further comprising:

automatically converting each at least one trigger symbol to a wild symbol when the at least one trigger symbol is displayed in the presented spin outcome.

Claim 20 (new): The method of claim 16 further comprising:

automatically converting to a wild symbol all symbols appearing in the presented spin outcome corresponding to the at least one selected symbol.
